

FAIRFAX COUNTY ATHLETIC COUNCIL

MINUTES

April 19, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Champness, Dranesville District
Harold Leff, Hunter Mill District
Barbara R. Lowrey, Mason District
Jeny Beausoliel, Alternate, Mason District
Wesley "Mike" Viilo, Mt. Vernon District
Stephen McLaughlin, Providence District
Roger Sims, Springfield District
David Lacey, Sully District
Jeffrey E. Stein, Town of Clifton
Sam Althoff, Town of Vienna
Carl Coan, Adult Softball Council
Ralph Wills, Fairfax County Soccer Advisory Council
Tricia Johnson, Fairfax County Volleyball Council
William J. Stephens, Fairfax County Women's Sports Programs

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

George Lovelace, Fairfax County Park Authority
Todd Johnson, Fairfax County Park Authority
Paul Jansen, Fairfax County School Board
Patricia Franckewitz, Department of Community and Recreation Services
Jesse Ellis, Department of Community and Recreation Services
Ashlee Currie, Department of Community and Recreation Services

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joseph Jozefczyk, Braddock District
Lula Bauer, Lee District
Elizabeth T. Bradsher, Member-At-Large
J. Marcelo Gangotena, Diversity-At-Large
Jerry Carter, Town of Herndon
Rob Hahne, Fairfax County Baseball Council
William Pruiett, Girls' Fast Pitch Softball Council
Tom Moore, Fairfax County Youth Basketball Council
Mark Meana, Fairfax County Football Board of Commissioners
Bill Harvey, Fairfax County Lacrosse Council

GUESTS: Stanley Martin

Meeting Opening – Mr. McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. Mr. Leff called the roll, and a quorum was present.

Administrative Items – The March 15, 2006, minutes were approved as written.

Chairman's Report – Mr. McLaughlin reported that he had appeared in front of the Board of Supervisors and pushed for artificial turf fields. He also appeared as the Providence District representative and reported that he is working with the proffers from the Metro West Project. He also reminded the Council to look at the two letters that he had written which were contained in their FCAC packet. Mr. McLaughlin continued to speak about the Fairfax County Public Schools' CIP in regard to new fields or improved sites at the schools. Mr. Lacey moved that ideas about what to include in a request from Schools in their CIP be forwarded to Mr. McLaughlin. Mr. Coan seconded the motion. Ms. Franckewitz suggested that Mr. McLaughlin draft a letter to Schools to include the FCAC well in advance of planning a new school so the FCAC could have input prior to the finished plan going forward. There was some discussion about the Schools' standards versus the community needs at school facilities. Mr. Jansen suggested that we work on determining who at the Schools should be dealing with the community users. He suggested that we should force schools to accept our input into the planning phase. Secondly, he said that Schools needs to have a point person to be responsible to the community users. Mr. Sims suggested that we work on getting a community use person on staff at every high school.

Committee Reports – Mr. McLaughlin appointed Mr. Leff as chair of the Election Committee.

Matters of Interest from Governing Bodies

Information – Board of Supervisors: Nothing to report

Information – Fairfax County Public Schools: Mr. Jansen said FCPS had unveiled the after-school programs at the middle schools which were designed not to displace existing users of the facilities. There are different kinds of after-school programs at various middle schools.

Information – Fairfax County Park Authority: Mr. Lovelace spoke about fees for the artificial turf fields. He said the Park Board will be discussing the issue of off-season fees for the use of artificial fields. There was some discussion about the use of the off-season fees and the turf replacement cost.

On another note, Mr. Johnson said the Park Authority had reduced its cost to build the artificial turf fields to a cost equal to the existent project costs.

Information – Community and Recreation Services: Ms. Franckewitz reported the request had been made to the Board of Supervisors for funding of the baseball/softball field maintenance program.

Ms. Franckewitz also said Fairfax County will be opening six Boys and Girls Clubs around the county. These will be held in the community centers and elementary schools.

Mr. Ellis said they will be sending out the Champion of Character Award applications shortly.

Old Business – None

New Business

Ms. Beausoliel asked how a park field would be reopened after it was closed for foul weather by the users. Ms. Franckewitz said there is a program with field monitors, and they are working on this program. Mr. Johnson said he is familiar with this acute problem and is dealing with it.

Mr. Stephens asked if there were an out-of-county policy concerning team make-up. His question concerned the Senior Olympics. It was suggested that he continue this discussion with Ms. Franckewitz.

Adjournment – On motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully,

Harold Leff
Secretary